



The E-Gobrecht

**Liberty Seated
Collectors Club**

2018 Volume 14, Issue 5

May 2018 (Whole #160)

The LSCC at Central States

A robust group of 25 or so LSCCers met at the Central States Numismatic Society convention on Friday, April 27. The group photo (shown below) was taken at the beginning of the meeting, and the room continued to fill throughout the hour. In attendance were the usual members who attend most of the national shows, and in addition a good number of Midwest members were also on hand. President Gerry Fortin presided and began the meeting with member introductions. This is always a good opportunity to remember who collects what. This group seemed to represent a disproportionate number of Liberty Seated quarter collectors, apropos as Gerry's feature presentation was on the quarter series. Following group introductions our President circulated a 4-piece set of the new membership medals currently in production. This is a stunning set that comes engraved with each member's name, truly a memorable commemorative of one's LSCC membership. The set is comprised of a gold medal, copper medal, and two silver medals, with the custom Capitol Plastics holder (design art by Jim Macor) displaying the set to maximum effect.

Gerry continued to the educational portion of the program, an overview of the Liberty Seated quarter denomination, essentially a collector's guide to approaching this challenging series. The presentation was adapted from the ANA Summer Seminar course, *Developing a Passion For Liberty Seated Coinage*, that was offered at the 2016 and 2017 ANA Summer Seminars in Colorado Springs. Gerry covered a number of topics including striking characteristics, design types, sleeper dates, and set building approaches. "Complementing" Gerry's talk was the recent appearance of the *Iowa Collection*, which was available for viewing at Gerry's table on the bourse floor. I

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The LSCC at Central States (continued)

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looked through the boxes on Thursday and had to come back for a second look on Friday. This group of approximately a hundred VF and EF quarters were all housed in PCGS holders and, *without exception*, all certi-

fied by CAC. Gerry will make an announcement in due course regarding the sale of this remarkable set. It was a pleasure to view these and I congratulate the owner on assembling this amazing group of Liberty Seated quarters.



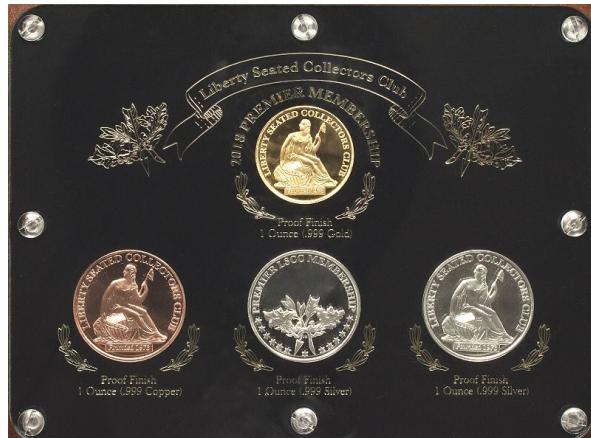
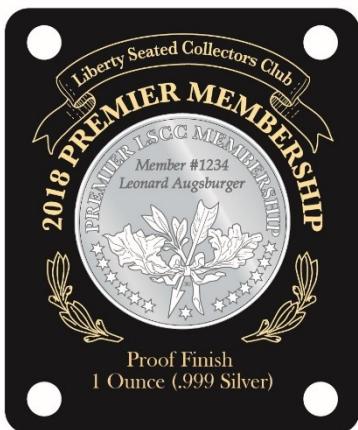
LSCC Regional Team in Action



Joe Casazza at the LSCC booth at the NH Coin Expo March 30-31. Note the glass LSCC table-top sign from Roy Ash behind the shirt.



John Frost at the LSCC table at the Pawcatuck Valley Coin Club Annual Show on April 29, 2018. Club exhibit -- William Barber and his Trade Dollars and Double Dimes.



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Questions or to order a medal or medal set, contact Jeff Ball, Project coordinator, jeffballphoto@gmail.com.



Cracked, Shattered, and Terminal by Benny Haimovitz, LSCC #2494

1891-S Dime, F-102 Small S, Doubled Die Reverse #1 Late Die State



With a mintage of 3,196,116, the 1891 dimes from the final year of Liberty Seated production at the San Francisco branch mint provide an interesting area for additional study. This later die state F-102 being but a single example.

The obverse die shows only a light die crack

from above the top of the final A in AMERICA, crossing just under Miss Liberty's toe along the front edge of her foot support ending above the final numeral 1 in the date. The reverse die exhibits some much more observable differences.

On the left, a die crack has formed from the



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rim with a small internal cud at about the K-9 position, almost at the edge of the wreath. The crack continues down through the leaves and then lightly along the stem and into the ribbon.

The same die crack crosses the lower bow and goes into the leaves on the right side of the wreath where it becomes heavier along the edge of the leaves. The crack then splits and exits to the rim at about K-4. The other part moves up the outer side of the corn husk exiting to the rim below tassel. But there is more ~ an additional crack forms along the inner left side of the corn ear with a small internal cud.



Die state diagnostics courtesy Gerry Fortin, indicating that this late die state F-102 may be a new F-102a. Should additional examples in very late die state be found, they may very well provide a completely ‘shattered’ reverse die. Images courtesy of PCGS TrueView with this example graded MS62 by PCGS with CAC approval.

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Auction News by Craig Eberhart, LSCC #1348

Heritage Signature Auction, March 29-31, Dallas. This auction included five different mid-grade San Francisco dimes from 1861 through 1870. Also included was an 1873 double die obverse dime, possibly the second finest known, which had been part of the Eugene Gardner collection. Better date quarters included an 1843-O large O, two 1852-Os, and an 1859-S. A very fine 1873-CC Trade dollar was sold along with two 1875 Philadelphia dollars, both with the rarer type 2 reverse.

1861-S	dime	PCGS	XF40	\$786	
1862-S	dime	PCGS	XF40	\$840	
1865-S	dime	PCGS	VF35	\$660	
1866-S	dime	PCGS	VF35	\$504	
1870-S	dime	PCGS	VF30	\$720	
1873	dime	PCGS CAC	AU58	\$12,000	F-103, double die obverse
1843-O	quarter	PCGS	VF25	\$1,020	Large O
1852-O	quarter	PCGS	AU-55	\$6,600	
1852-O	quarter	PCGS	F12	\$840	
1859-S	quarter	PCGS	F12	\$880	
1873-CC	Trade dollar	PCGS	VF30	\$840	
1875	Trade dollar	PCGS	MS61	\$2,760 & \$1,980	Type 2 reverse

Central States Numismatic Society, Heritage Signature Auction, April 25-29, Chicago. Two circulated 1838-O half dimes, one each of the two known die marriages, sold for strong prices. The auction included an 1846 half dime, which is considered the rarest Philadelphia Liberty Seated half dime. Two better date New Orleans dimes, with CAC stickers, went to new owners.

One of the highest graded 1854-O huge O quarters was sold. This unusual variety, which appears to have a hand engraved mintmark, is often available below extra fine, but rarely above it. A choice AU 1857-S was also in the auction.

A high grade doubled date 1844-O half dollar was in this sale. This die marriage has one of the most spectacular doubled dates among all Liberty Seated coinage. The auction included four better date Carson City half dollars as listed below. Four scarce date AU58 dollars, including an example of the 1875-S/CC Trade dollar, were also sold.



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1838-O	half dime	PCGS	VF20	\$1,231	V-1
1838-O	half dime	PCGS	XF40	\$2,160	V-2
1846	half dime	NGC	XF45	\$3,840	
1840-O	dime	PCGS CAC	MS62	\$7,500	F-106a medium O
1853-O	dime	PCGS CAC	MS64	\$7,800	
1854-O	quarter	PCGS	XF45	\$4,320	huge O
1857-S	quarter	PCGS	AU58	\$3,720	
1844-O	half dollar	NGC	AU55	\$4,080	WB-103
1870-CC	half dollar	PCGS	VF25	\$4,800	WB-2
1873-CC with arrows	half dollar	PCGS	AU50	\$2,640	WB-7
1874-CC	half dollar	NGC	AU58	\$7,800	WB-3
1875-CC	half dollar	PCGS CAC	AU58	\$2,040	WB-10
1845	dollar	NGC	AU58	\$4,800	OC-1
1850	dollar	PCGS	AU58	\$3,960	OC-1
1864	dollar	PCGS	AU58	\$3,604	OC-1
1875-S/CC	Trade dollar	PCGS	AU-58	\$4,080	FS-501

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LSCC Calendar

May 17-19, 2018. **LSCC regional meeting and educational program.** **Somerset, NJ.** Gar-den State Numismatic Association Annual Convention, Ukrainian Cultural Center, Somerset, NJ. Carl Feldman and John Frost host the club table with a display of the new William Barber items (see the “Regional News” column on the next page of this issue for more info) along with Barber designed Trade Dollars and Double-Dimes. There will be two educational presentations. On Friday May 18, John Frost will present *Liberty Seated Carson City Coinage*, and on Saturday May 19, he will present *The Many Faces of Liberty Seated Coinage*.

June 1, 2018. Deadline for articles and Advertisements for the Summer Issue of the *Gobrecht Journal* (Issue # 132).

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Regional News

by Dennis Fortier, LSCC #2016

The Manchester Coin Expo was well attended and many LSCC regulars found their way to the club table. John Frost had an excellent exhibit of Liberty Seated coinage from Carson City at the club table

that was hosted by Northeast Regional Director Joe Casazza. The exhibit corresponded with John's presentation on "*Liberty Seated Carson City Coinage*" at the Manchester club meeting.

John Frost has a report for both Bay State April 19-21, and Pawcatuck Valley April 29. In April, the LSCC attended two shows in the northeast, the Bay State Coin Show in Massachusetts, and the annual coin show of the Pawcatuck Valley Coin Club (serves Rhode Island and southeastern Connecticut). The theme of the club table at both shows was William Barber and his Trade Dollars and Double Dimes. At Bay State, Joe Casazza hosted the table, and we had visits from a number of collectors who had joined the LSCC at this show in previous years. The exhibits were viewed by many attendees and enthusiastically received descriptions and background by Joe and myself.

The following weekend, John staffed the table at the PVCC show with a slightly different mix of unique artifacts surrounding the 5th Chief Engraver of the U.S. Mint, along with coins from the two series. Traffic was quite heavy, with a number of the show dealers (who saw the display during set-up) directed people to our table. We have been at this small club show for a number of years now, and we said hi to many familiar faces. This is a great show for us, as many attendees make this their only coin show for the year.

Of note at the Pawcatuck Valley Coin Club annual coin show John Frost had a first showing of

original artifacts from the family of William Barber. These artifacts included a heretofore unknown portrait of a young William Barber, and original hand drawings of a proposed twenty-five cent design that never made it to the Pattern stage. John said there was so much traffic at the club table in Pawcatuck that he was horse from talking.

On the cover page of this issue of the *E-Gobrecht* LSCC Vice-President Len Augsburger has provided an excellent account of the LSCC meeting at Central States Numismatic Society's Annual Convention April 25-28.

Brian Cushing our West Coast Regional Director gave a talk on Liberty Seated Dollars for the Silver Dollar Round Table at their Central States meeting. Brian's talk was a general overview of the series including proof and business strikes. This included scarcity, major varieties, and mint errors. Brian even touched on Exonumia regarding Liberty Seated dollars.

The Garden State Numismatic Association Show May 17-19 will see Carl Feldman and John Frost hosting the club table with a display of the new William Barber items (previously listed in this column) along with Barber designed Trade Dollars and Double-Dimes. There will be two educational presentations. On Friday May 18, John Frost will present *Liberty Seated Carson City Coinage*, and on Saturday May 19, he will present *The Many Faces of Liberty Seated Coinage*.

Interest in the LSCC continues to grow. Thir-ty-three new members have signed up since the begin-ning of the year. Club tables at regional shows are a-kin to a club-house with members hanging-out and sharing some fine comradeship.



The Curious Collector

by Len Augsburger, LSCC #1271

Mmmmm.....Pie.....

Gerry Fortin's *Daily Blog* has lately become required reading, except for the occasional "guest blog" written by yours truly, in which case the blog is more like a mad dash back to the hotel room when you realize you've forgotten to bring the LCD projector to the LSCC meeting. In any case, Gerry recently wrote that coin grading "is no different than a baking contest at your local county fair. From afar, the blueberry pies will appear to be similar if not identical. But approaching each pie with eyes, nose and taste buds quickly highlights the differences. The same applies to numismatics."

Gerry lives in Maine, where they know a thing or two about blueberries. They are iconic in that state, indeed the blueberry tarts are considered "pieconic." I've been addicted to pie since childhood, it was the first food that made me really sick from eating too much, and when it comes to pie – just like coin grading – there should be strong opinions. One should not be put too much corn syrup in the filling (a well-known cost reduction technique practiced by the less scrupulous), and the fruit must be as fresh as possible. I grow sour cherry trees in the backyard, and, come the fourth of July (the official cherry harvest day of the household), the chomping commences. Just think of me as Pierannosaurus Rex and you'll get the idea.

My grandfather had the first book about coins I ever read. It was a "prices paid for" type paperback issued by Stack's. I'm sure it contained shockingly low prices – but when you solicit coins from the public in a mass-marketed way, you are going to be dealing with a LOT of junk. Grandpa operated an independent grocery store for a few years after a tornado obliterated the local chain supermarket. He knew enough to pick out the all the silver coins that came through the

till and had a nice little stash that got liquidated after the silver prices went up. He also carried Hostess fruit pies. OK, it's time to confess, I got a lot of practice "shoplifting" in that store. It's kind of a gray line because we (I am compelled to implicate my two older brothers) likely asked the first time if we could have a fruit pie. The second time we might not have asked. Or the third, or the eleventh time either. I'm not sure about the other times in between. One thing I know about my grandfather, though, he was no dummy. I'm sure there was a conversation with the Hostess bakery vendor every time the grandchildren came to visit.

Eventually we grew up and figured out that Hostess was a generic, commercial product made in a big factory. My mother was the pie maker, and there really was no comparison between what you got at home and what you got elsewhere. "If you want something done right, do it yourself" was what you always heard. The point being that anything worth doing was worth doing *well*. OK, enough drooling about pie, let's get back to coins. Returning to Gerry's *Daily Blog*, he went on to make the point that grading is inherently a complex thing – you are trying to distill wear, strike, luster, marks, and eye appeal into a single number. The single number is a boon to dealers – it "dumbs it down" so that you can just look at the number on the coin, check the price guide, and you are done.

But you really aren't done. Suppose I gave a few different collectors a blank checkbook and told them all to go build sets at the EF40 level. I guarantee the more experienced collectors will come back with superior results, even though all the coins are the same numerical grade. They will pick the better coins, they

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will come back with sets that look like someone put effort into it, rather than just filling holes. They are, as Dave Bowers likes to say, *connoisseurs*. So – besides trying to not eat too much pie this summer – spend time viewing as many coins as you can, and critically com-

pare their strengths and weaknesses with fellow collectors and dealers. Coin collecting shouldn't be easy. It should be fun, but it should require some effort. Enjoy the challenge and enjoy your coins.

Seated Shorts

From Michael: I finally got to read tonight the April E-Gobrecht and I must say another job extremely well done. Was thriller that Coin Television, David Lisot, picked up the LSCC meeting and I see Bill Bugert was back and manning the table at Baltimore. Picked up four new members!

I also see the premier LSCC membership medal had reached its completed stage and quite a job well done. I hope many orders are placed

Benny's article on the 1853 liberty seated 25c arrows and rays was well done with crystal clear photos of the many and extensive die cracks obverse and reverse, and something I will add to my search listing at the next show I attend

Craig's "Auction news" was another great read with an interesting report on strong prices realized for both scarce and problem free with decent eye appeal Liberty Seated coinage and the scarcer date and mintmark combos are in great demand and just keep bringing stronger prices year after year.

"Regional news" by Dennis keeps track of various shows and it shows to me the great growth of Liberty Seated collecting and a great overview with what is happening at the various shows with regards to club "happenings." Thank you, Dennis!!

Greg's "Quarter of the month" was a big pleasant surprise to read as I have never heard of this variety and is my new search coin!!!! The 1891 25cent "89" in the dentils.

Greg, your photos were amazing along with the other information and I look forward to your next article in the E-Gobrecht monthly newsletter. Thank you, Greg!!

"Seated shorts" was informative along with dealer website ads: the first one I went to was Gerry Fortin's website as his searchable site for prices realized for past sales' different variety web books and daily blog is required daily reading for me.

From Dennis Fortier: As a proud new owner of an 1878-S half dollar, Dennis noticed his odometer at exactly the right moment, imaged it, and send it in for us to enjoy. Here it is. Talk about a coincidence.





Quarter of the Month

by Greg Johnson, LSCC #1460

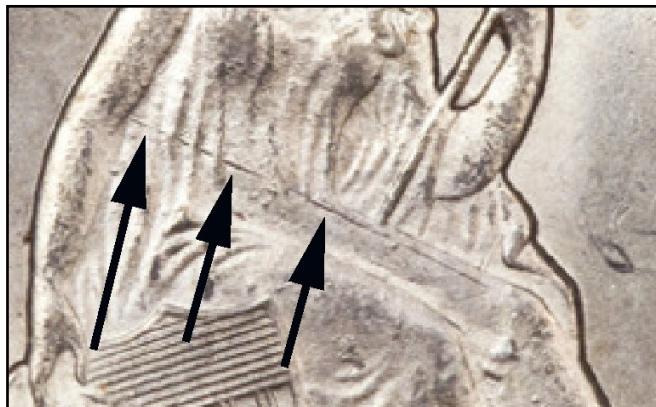
The 1878-CC Cancelled Obverse Quarter Dollar



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One of the qualities that attract people to Liberty Seated quarter varieties is their rarity. That is just as well because in addition to being really interesting, many of them are rare or very rare. Most coins that have been featured in this column are, in fact, rare coins that are very challenging to locate. Part of that pattern is simply the result of author bias. So, in order to offer something a little different, this month's coin is one of the most common of the Top 25 quarter varieties; the

1878-CC cancelled obverse.

The first thing to mention about the 1878-CC cancelled obverse variety is that it should be "cancelled obverse" in quotes because there is a long, straight scratch through the obverse die rather than serious damage obviously intended to make the die unusable or mark it as obsolete. The issue does not get a lot of attention because it is relatively common. Top 25 variety collectors tend to pursue more rare issues first under the apparent assumption that a nice 1878-CC will always be available later. While that is generally true, finding a nice example of the variety in any particular desired grade can take some patience.

The cancelled obverse variety includes two different die marriages; the obverse is paired with two distinct reverse dies (Briggs A and B). The issue comes well struck, but from heavily rusted dies. High-grade coins tend to have proof-like luster.



Seated Shorts



[Last month, reader and club member Dave Oppelt posed a question in the *E-Gobrecht* asking if anyone had information on the medal featured above. Reader Bill Brownstein answered with his interesting comments on this medal. Both the question and answer are displayed below.—Editor.]

From Dave Oppelt, LSCC # 2468: I need help in identifying this token. Does anyone have information on it? There's a Seated Lady on the front with HONOR on her shield holding a flag and the date below her 1866. On the reverse is a man with a wreath of flowers around and a bow at the bottom. It is the same size and color of a silver dollar. My grandmother gave this coin to me 40 years ago and said that it was from the World's Fair. Any help identifying it would be great!

From William H. "Bill" Brownstein: The question about identifying the token on page 14 leads me to believe that the 8 stars is for South Carolina, the 8th State in the union.

As for the portrait on the reverse, it looks like Thomas Pickney, where www.Wikipedia.com contains the following description:

Thomas Pinckney (October 23, 1750 – November 2, 1828) was an early American statesman, diplomat, and soldier in both the American Revolutionary War and the War of 1812, achieving the rank of Major General. He served as Governor of South Carolina and as the U.S. minister to Great Britain. He was also the Federalist candidate for vice president in the 1796 election.

Maybe the fair was dedicated to him or in honor of him as a great statesman.



Free Advertisements

Brian Greer, well known dealer, collector, and numismatist, has an extensive listing of many new dates and varieties listed on his website. Check them out at: <http://www.briangreerrarecoins.com/>.

Half Dollar Book Available. Volume V of Bill Bugert's books, *A Register of Liberty Seated Half Dollar Varieties, Volume V, Philadelphia Mint, 1839-1852* available from the author for \$65 postpaid. Contact Bill at wb8cpy@earthlink.net.

Liberty Seated Dime Die Varieties Wanted. I am paying high prices for Seated Dimes with major cuds, die cracks, and rotated reverses. Contact David Thomas at davethomas333@hotmail.com or 1-714-872-2772.

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Wanted to Buy, Liberty Seated Quarters for my personal collection. Prefer choice, original examples with attractive natural color and surfaces. Please feel free to offer me any coins and I will respond promptly. Doug Winter LSCC #10. Email address dwn@ont.com.

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Wanted to Buy. Collector of Liberty Seated Dollars wants engraved and/or counter-stamped (love tokens) or rotated reverses. All mints, any condition, holed OK. Carl Feldman: carlscoins@gmail.com or (973) 479-9956.

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Larry Briggs Rare Coins. New updated website with many photos—check us out at: www.larrybriggsrarecoins.com

Dr. Eugene Bruder is constantly updating his website, www.typecoins.com, which features a nice selection of bust and seated material for sale. You can reach him at 402-475-0350 or email at: gene@typecoins.com.

Seeking 1839 Gobrecht Dollar. Prefer 45-60 condition, cleaned and retoned OK. John Cory, 201-669-6500, jcory@nj.rr.com.

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Rotated Reverse Seated Dimes Wanted. I am looking for rotated reverse Liberty Seated dimes. Any interested parties can email Jason Feldman at jason@seated.org



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LSCC Mission

To encourage, promote, and dispense numismatic knowledge of the Liberty Seated coins; to cultivate fraternal relations among its members and all those interested in the science of numismatics.

LSCC website: www.lsccweb.org

LSCC email address: lscc@lsccweb.org

LSCC Membership Information. Dues are bargain priced at \$25 per year and include three issues of the *Gobrecht Journal*, an award winning numismatic publication. To join the Liberty Seated Collectors Club, for *Gobrecht Journal*/mailing address changes, or for other membership questions, correspond with the LSCC Secretary/Treasurer.

Articles, comments, or advertisements for publication in the *Gobrecht Journal* may be addressed to the LSCC Publications Editor.

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Wanted: Material for this newsletter!

Please consider submitting something for print. It need not be elaborate; it can be something as simple as a short note on your favorite variety, neat find, nice cherry pick, happenings at a coin show, rare Liberty Seated coinage coming up for auction, etc. If you are interested in it, rest assured, others will be too! Sharing information is a goal of this newsletter and you need not be an experienced or famous writer to submit something. This is a continuing plea.

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